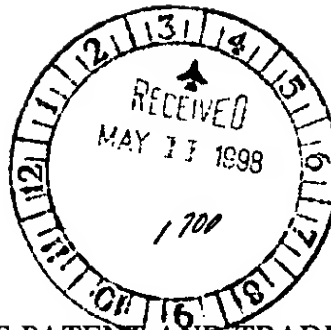


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444-1303
1731

PATENT
Atty. Docket No. 443-17

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Yamanaka et al.

EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned

LU-Rutt

SERIAL NO.: 08/855,905

GROUP: Art Unit

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FILED: May 14, 1997

DATED: April 22, 1998

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EXCELLENT PRINTABILITY

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the listed items are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 22, 1998.

Dated: April 22, 1998


Rocca S. Barrese

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search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The listed items were all cited in a Search Report in a counterpart European application dated February 27, 1998. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed.

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(ii).

☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i)(1))

☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1121.

☐ Enclosed by check is the \$240.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ Please charge the \$240.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 04-1121.

☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 04-1121. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 04-1121 therefor. **TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.**



The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rocco S. Barrese", is written over the typed name.

Reg. No. 25,253
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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